

REMARKS

The Office states that the claims previously elected in response to the prior restriction requirement are now also directed to patentably distinct species, and therefore now requires election of one of Species I, II, or III, and a listing of the claims readable on the elected species.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Species III, the claims readable upon being claims 7, 10-16, 23-25, and 29-33. This election is made with traverse, as explained below.

Applicant believes that the election of species requirement is in error. The limitations listed by the Office for alleged species I, II, and II do not correspond to different dependent species claims associated with a generic independent claim, but rather correspond to limitations that are recited in various of the independent claims.

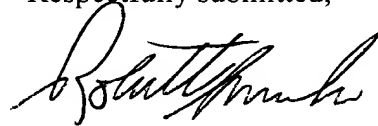
Furthermore, there is no reason why such an election of species, or alternatively a more granular restriction requirement, even if proper, could not have been issued in the prior office action. Applicant did not amend any claims in response to the prior restriction requirement. The Office's failure to address all restriction and election issues in a single action has unnecessarily increased Applicant's costs by necessitating a response to this additional office action. If the election of species requirement is maintained in the next office action, Applicant respectfully requests an explanation from the Office as to why such an election of species requirement was not included in the prior office action.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully traverses the election of species requirement and respectfully requests the Examiner to examine the claims of Species I, II, and III together. Applicant believes that all elected claims presently on file in the subject application are in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If it is felt for any reason that direct communication with Applicant's attorney would serve to advance prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned Robert C. Sismilich, Esq. at the below-listed telephone number.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY AND PETITION
FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF ANY NECESSARY FEES**

If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the foregoing communication (including but not limited to the payment of an extension fee or issue fees), or if any overpayment is to be refunded in connection with the above-identified application, any such charges or fees, or any such overpayment, may be respectively paid out of, or into, the Deposit Account No. 08-2025 of Hewlett-Packard Company. If any such payment also requires Petition or Extension Request, please construe this authorization to pay as the necessary Petition or Request which is required to accompany the payment.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 7/30/05

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